Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No answer is necessary in view of the answer to (*a*).

(*c*) Government considered the matter and found that there was no truth in the allegation.

DEARNESS ALLOWANCE

177. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) what is the total of dearness allowance paid by the Government to Government Employees in 1119;

(*b*) are Cochin Government servants supplied with their necessaries of life at controlled or pre-war prices;

(*c*) is the system in (*b*) not obtaining in Travancore and British India?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) The figures for 1119 are not yet available. The amount of dearness allowance required for payment to Government employees (including staff paid from contingencies) as per the revised estimate for 1119 is Rs. 11,03,237.

(*b*) In the case of commodities the prices of which have been controlled, the Government servants, like others, can purchase them at controlled rates. There is no special arrangement for Government servants.

(*c*) Government have no information.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Are the Government aware, Sir, that Railway servants are being supplied with the necessaries at pre-war rates?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* They have some arrangement to give rice. That I know. But it is not on pre-war rates but at the present market rates.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Sir, I question the correctness of that statement.

EXCISE STAFF—SALARY OF—ENAMMAVU, ETC., RANGES

178. Mr. K. R. Achuthan *(Trichur-Ezhuvas):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the salary of the Excise Staff in the Enammavu range for the months of Dhanu, Makaram and Kumbham 1119 was not disbursed on the 20th, 18th and 22nd of the succeeding months respectively;

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state the reasons for this late disbursal of salary?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) No. The pay was disbursed on 19th Makaram 1119, 17th Kumbham 1119 and 21st Meenam 1119 respectively.

(*b*) The pay bills of the range staff can be prepared only after receipt of tour statements for the previous month. These will generally be received from all the Sub-Inspectors only by the 5th of the succeeding month. The establishment of the preventive force including the staff for Price Control has considerably increased in strength and there was then only one clerk to prepare all these bills. These are the reasons for this late disbursement of pay.

Mr. K. R. Achyuthan *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* May I know, Sir, whether the difficulty with regard to the receipt of tour statements does not apply to other departments also?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Yes. It applies in the case of some other Departments also, where there are a large number of hands.

Mr. K. R. Achyuthan *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* May I know whether it is the practice throughout the year?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* The Office staff has now been increased in order that payment may be made earlier.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Can we take it, Sir, that the pay subsequent to these months is being distributed to them before the 5th?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Yes. As far as possible.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know Sir, whether the Government are aware that these people are dependent upon their salary for their maintenance?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Yes.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Every now and then such complaints are brought to the notice of the House. Will the Government be pleased to do something to see that such complaints do not come up in future at least?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly